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ACT

For publiſhing His Majeſties moſt gracious Letter.

HIS Majeſties high Commiſſioner, and Lords of His Majeſties Privy Council, having received from His Majeſty, the gracious Letter ſubjoyned, with the Order therein contained; Appointing the ſame to be Publiſhed, for the Satisfaction of all His Majeſties good Subjects, do hereby Ordain the ſame to be publiſhed accordingly: And do therefore grant Warrand, and Ordain His Majeſties Heraulds, Macers of Privy Council, Purſevants, Meſſengers at Arms, to paſs to the Mercat-croſs of *Edinburgh*, and there make due Publication of the ſaid Letter with ſound of Trumpet, and all other Solemnities. And Further, Ordains the ſame to be Printed, and His Majeſties Solicitor to tranſmit Copies thereof, and of this Act, to the Sheriffs of the ſeveral Shires, and Stewarts of the Stewartries, their Deputs or Clerks, who are hereby required to cauſe publiſh the ſame at the Head-burghs of their reſpective Juriſdictions, after the Manner and Form of publick Proclamations, as they will be anſwerable.

Per Actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.

GILB. ELIOT. *Cls. Sti. Concilii.*

Follows the Tenor of His Majeſties Letter.

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His Majesties
MOST GRACIOUS
LETTER:
Directed to His Grace *JAMES* Duke of *Queensberry*, His *Majesties* High Commissioner, and the Privy Council of *SCOTLAND*.

WILLIAM R.

RIght Trusty and Intirely Beloved Cousin and Counsellor, Right Trusty and Right well Beloved Cousin and Countellor, Right Trusty and well Beloved Cousins & Counsellors, Right Trusty and well Beloved Counsellors, and Trusty and well Beloved Counsellors, We Greet you well, We heartily wish that the last Meeting of Parliament had proceeded, so as that the Kingdom might have been made Partakers of these Advantages for which Our Commissioner was so fully Instructed: If it had been possible for Us to have agreed to the *Resolve* offered to Assert the Right of the *African-Companies* Colony in *America*, tho' that Method had appeared to Us more unnecessary, yet We had from the beginning readily done it, at the earnest Desire of Our Ministers, and for Our Peoples Satisfaction, all other Considerations set apart. But now that Things are much changed, (wherein We are truely Sorry for the Nations Loss) And We being most willing to Grant what may be needful for the Releif and Ease of the Kingdom, and the Advancement of its Welfare in all its Concerns: We have thought fit to Declare this Our good Mind to be made Known to all Our loving Subjects. And for the *Companies* Concerns, We Assure you, that We will be so ready to concur with Our Parliament, in every thing that can be reasonably expected of Us, for Aiding & Supporting their Interests, and Repairing their Losses, that Our good Subjects shall have just Grounds to be sensible of our heartie Inclinations to advance the Wealth and Prosperity of that our Antient Kingdom. And as for Captain *Pinkerton* and the other Prisoners in *Spain*, We have alreadie, and We hope Effectually Interposed for their Liberation. In the next place, As We did fully Instruct our Commissioner, So We are still Resolved, to pass all such Laws as

shall

ſhall be offered for the better Eſtabliſhing the true Proteſtant Religion, and the Presbyterian Government of the Church, which you at preſent Enjoy; For the more effectual preventing the Growth of Popery juſtly feared, for the Repreſſing of Vice & Immorality, for the Preſerving & Securing the Liberty of Mens Perſons, for the Encouraging & Advancement of Trade & Manufacturies, and generally, to give Our Aſſent to ſuch other Laws as ſhall be brought in for further clearing and ſecuring Mens civil Rights and Properties, promoting the Adminiſtration of Juſtice, and ſetling the Peace and Quiet of the Kingdom, demanding nothing on Our part, ſave what ſhall be neceſſary to Maintain that Our antient Kingdom in ſo happy a Settlement againſt Our and Their Enemies. And this Declaration, We are confident will be ſatisfying to all good Men, who will certainly be careful both of their own Preſervation, and of the Intereſt and Honour of the Government, and not to ſuffer themſelves to be Miſled, nor to give any Advantage to Enemies & ill deſigning Perſons, ready to catch hold of every Opportunity, as their Practices do too manifeſtly witneſs.

Our neceſſary Abſence hath occaſioned the late Adjournments, but as ſoon as God ſhall bring Us back, We are firmly Reſolved Our Parliament ſhall Meet, where We do again Aſſure all Our good Subjects, nothing ſhall be Wanting on Our part, that may contribute to their Welfare and Happineſs. And this Our Reſolution and Declaration, We Allow you to Publiſh for the Satisfaction of all concerned. So We bid you heartily Farewell. *Given at Our Court at* Loo, *the 26th day of* July 1700. *And of Our Reign the 12th year.*

By His Majeſties Command,

RO. PRINGLE.

Edinburgh, Printed by the Heirs and Succeſſors of *Andrew Anderſon*, Printer to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty, *Anno Dom.* 1700.